

Message Text

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21

ACTION SS-25

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P R 180610Z JUL 75

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1477

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EXDIS

DEPT PASS CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, UNGA, KS

SUBJECT: COMMAND ARRANGEMENTS

REF: (A) SEOUL 4340 (B) STATE 131861

1. AMBASSADOR CALLED ON FONMIN KIM TONG-CHOSULY 18
TO DISCUSS COMMAND ARRANGEMENTS TO BE INSTITUTED SHOULD
UNC BE DISSOLVED.

2. KIM SAID THEE

MOFA HAD HELD PRELIMINARY TALKS WITH
MND AND OTHER AGENCIES BUT THAT THE HAD NOT YET DISCUSSED
ISSUE IN DETAIL WITH THE PRESIDENT. HE WAS THUS UNABLE
TO OPEN TALKS WITH THE AMBASSADOR AT THIS TIME.

3. KIM SAID, NEVERTHELESS, THAT THE ROK AND US POSITIONS
ON A COMBINED COMMAND ARRANGEMENT EVIDENTLY DIFFERED
ON THREE POINTS:

(A) THE USG HOLDS THAT A US FOUR-STAR GENERAL WOULD BE
COMMANDER OF A COMBINED COMMAND AS LONG AS THERE WAS
A "SIGNIFICANT" US TROOP PRESENCE IN KOREA. THE ROKG
POSITION CALLED FOR A US COMMANDER AS LONG AS THE "PRESENT

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LEVEL" OF US FORCES WAS MAINTAINED.

(B) THE USG WOULD NOT PUT US FORCES IN KOREA UNDER OPERATIONAL CONTROL OF THE COMBINED COMMAND. THE ROKG POSITION WAS THAT FORCES OF BOTH COUNTRIES SHOULD BE UNDER THE COMMAND'S OPERATIONAL CONTROL. A LIST WOULD BE DRAWN UP BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT SPECIFYING WHICH US AND ROK UNITS WOULD BE PLACED UNDER THE COMMAND'S OPCON.

(C) THE ROKG WOULD SUBORDINATE THE COMBINED COMMAND TO A MILITARY COMMITTEE OR SIMILAR ORGAN; THE US DID NOT FAVOR SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT.

4. TAKING NOTE OF KIM'S POINTS, THE AMBASSADOR URGED THAT THEY BEGIN DISCUSSIONF ON ISSUE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. KIM SAID HE THOUGHT TALKS COULD GET UNDERWAY EARLY NEXT WEEK. SNEIDER

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED CINCPAC.

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